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09/871,032	05/31/2001	Kirsten Kopitzke	4119	8170

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EXAMINER	
BONSHOCK, DENNIS G	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2173	

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/871,032	KOPITZKE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Dennis G. Bonshock	2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 May 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 6-29* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) A is/are withdrawn from consideration. RB

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) ~~1-29~~ 1-4, 6-29 is/are rejected. RB

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5-5-04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Final Rejection

Response to Amendment

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed on record in the file: Amendment A as received on 5-5-2004.

2. Claims 1-29 have been examined.

Status of Claims:

3. Claims 1-4 and 5-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Launey et al., Patent # 5,086,385, hereinafter Launey and Speirs et al., Patent #5,677,603, hereinafter Speirs.

4. Claim 5 has been canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claimed subject matter is inappropriately incorporated, where it is unclear what, if anything, of claim 5, is incorporated.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been

> obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-4 and 6-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Launey et al., Patent # 5,086,385, hereinafter Launey and Speirs et al., Patent #5,677,603, hereinafter Speirs.

9. With regard to claim 1, Launey teaches a system that uses a touch screen for monitoring and controlling systems (see column 2, lines 65 through column 3, line 10 and column 4, lines 42-50), monitoring and controlling an audio, video, lighting, HVAC, and fire safety system (see column 4, lines 42-50 and column 55, lines 12-60 along with figures 12a-e), a door monitoring system (see column 8, line 62), water managing systems (see column 14, lines 33-40 and column 48, lines 40-50), the display area of the screen contains a plurality of labeled touch sensitive input keys (see column 4, lines 42-50 and figures 12a-e), there being a different set of menus for each cabin system (see column 4, lines 42-50 and figures 12a-e), the systems being selectively displayed (one at a time) on the general display area where by they independently show status information and operating functions of the select system (see column 3, lines 52-55 and figures 12a-e) and allow the user to select and control a function of the select system via a touch sensitive input arrangement (see column 2, lines 65 through column 3, line 10 and column 4, lines 42-50). Launey further teaches, in column 55, line 13, through column 56, line 6, and figures 12a-e, that the system contains a main menu that is displayed on the sides of the currently displayed submenu, giving the user the ability to switch to a different submenu, the center portion of this

screen further provides status information, for example, it provides an indication of whether or not there is a tape in the VCR. Launey, however, doesn't teach the touch sensitive screen controlling systems in an aircraft cabin or the screen being an LCD screen. Speirs teaches a touch sensitive control and monitoring system similar to that of Launey, but further teaches the system being implemented in an aircraft (see column 1, lines 45-55), and the use of a touch sensitive LCD screen for input and monitoring (see column 3, lines 25-31 and page 4, lines 22-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Launey and Speirs before him at the time the invention was made to modify touch screen monitoring and controlling system of Launey to include the ability to control systems in an aircraft and the ability to use a touch sensitive LCD screen. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because, like a home, an aircraft has many separate systems in which a central controller would be handy, and the use of an LCD screen the cabin of an aircraft is an obvious choice because of the limited space.

10. With regard to claim 2, which teaches the touch input keys comprising respective touch input areas of the touch sensitive surface input arrangement, Launey teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e, a system in which touching an appropriate function box implements the function, With regard to claim 2 further teaching function identification symbols displayed on the display screen at locations respectively in registration with said touch input area of said touch sensitive surface input arrangement, Launey further teaches, in column 55,

lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e, touch sensitive boxes that have a title associated with them.

11. With regard to claim 3, which teaches touch input keys that are permanent physical input keys separate and distinct from said touch sensitive surface input arrangement, Launey further teaches, in column 1, lines 53-56 and claim 11, the use of a physical keypad in addition to the touch sensitive screen.

12. With regard to claim 4, which teaches a computer connected to the interface panel that contains software to be executed in the computer for generating and displaying the control and monitoring panel, Launey further teaches, in column 4, lines 34-50, a software program running on a computer that controls a touch screen capable of controlling a plurality of systems.

13. With regard to claim 6, which teaches the basic layout further including a header which displays an identification of a respective active one of said menus that are being displayed, Launey further teaches, in column 16, 48-61 and figures 3a-n, a plurality of different functions that can be called, and when displayed give a header describing the current function.

14. With regard to claim 7, which teaches touch input keys of said basic layout maintained available and accessible to the user continuously and regardless of which menu is being displayed on the general display area, Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e that the system contains a main menu that is displayed on the sides of the currently displayed submenu, giving the user the ability to switch to a different submenu.

15. With regard to claim 8, which teaches the user interface panel comprising a versatile adaptable touch sensitive screen that incorporates both the display screen and the touch sensitive surface input arrangement, Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e, a touch sensitive control based system in which screen touches on representative elements control the systems.

16. With regard to claim 9, which teaches the control of the audio systems which include display indicators and input buttons for the user to monitor, select, and play pre-recorded announcements and to monitor and adjust an on-board music channel, Launey further teaches, in column 20, line 25, column 55, lines 19-35 and in figure 12b, the monitoring and controlling of an audio system that can contain spoken alerts.

17. With regard to claim 10, which teaches indicators and buttons including a numerical display field and an input keypad, which enables the user to input a corresponding number to select a desired one of the pre-recorded announcements, Launey further teaches, in column 11, line 37, that audio/video entertainment system can be actuated and cause to perform all the functions available by use of their respective remote controls. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Launey before them that audio device controllers contain numerical buttons that allow for the selection of a specific audio tracks to be selected on the device and to be played.

18. With regard to claim 11, which teaches that display indicators and input buttons allow for the pre-recorded announcements to be queued and played in

sequence, Launey further teaches, in column 20, line 17-27, a means of scheduling the audio streams.

19. With regard to claim 12, which teaches a lighting system menu, which includes display indicators and input buttons for the user to monitor, select, and adjust said cabin lighting systems, individually for different areas, Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 49-59 in figure 12e, a touch screen control for lighting systems in which the user can monitor, control, and adjust the lighting in a specific area.

20. With regard to claim 13, which teaches the display indicators and input buttons providing three selectable brightness levels of illumination, Launey further teaches, in column 19, lines 10-19 and in figure 3m, a plurality of user selectable lighting modes.

21. With regard to claim 14, which teaches a door monitoring system wherein the door monitoring system menu includes display indicators that represent each door and hatch of he aircraft and indicate a respective status thereof, Launey further teaches, in column 8, line 62, column 18, lines 28-44, and in figure 3i, monitoring the status of doors and a display that shows a visual representation of all the doors and windows giving status information.

22. With regard to claim 15, which teaches a status menu that displays status information respectively regarding all of said cabin systems, Launey further teaches, in column 20, lines 39-44, the displaying of a summary of all the settings for a particular mode.

23. With regard to claim 16, which teaches a programming menu that can be selectively displayed on said general display area, whereby said programming menu includes display indicators and input buttons to allow the user to program functions of a plurality of said cabin systems, Launey further teaches, in column 2, line 65 through column 3, line 9 and in column 20, lines 28-38, the ability to program the control and monitoring of the systems.

24. With regard to claim 17, which teaches the steps of: touching a displayed input key labeled with an identification symbol with a desired one of system menus or main menu to call up and display said desired one of said system menus or said main menu on the general display area, Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-28, the different systems being controlled by a selection by the user of the appropriate desired icon of the desired system menu or main menu icon, which prompts the appropriate system screen. With regard to claim 17, further teaching if main menu is being displayed the user selecting a portion of the main menu corresponding to a desired one of said system menus on said touch sensitive surface input arrangement superimposed over said general display area, Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-28 and figure 12a, the different systems being controlled by a selection by the user of the appropriate desired icon from the main menu screen, which prompts the appropriate system screen. With regard to claim 17, further teaching when desired one of said system menus is displayed, touching a portion of said desired one of said system menus corresponding to a desired one of said operating functions on the touch sensitive surface so as to select and adjust, Launey

further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-60 and figures 12a-e, the different systems being controlled by a selection by the user of the appropriate desired icon of the desired sub-system menu, which causes the desired action to take place.

25. With regard to claim 18, Launey teaches a system that uses a touch screen for monitoring and controlling systems (see column 2, lines 65 through column 3, line 10 and column 4, lines 42-50), monitoring and controlling an audio, video, lighting, HVAC, and fire safety system (see column 4, lines 42-50 and column 55, lines 12-60 along with figures 12a-e), a door monitoring system (see column 8, line 62), water managing systems (see column 14, lines 33-40 and column 48, lines 40-50), the display area of the screen contains a plurality of labeled touch sensitive input keys (see column 4, lines 42-50 and figures 12a-e), there being a different set of menus for each cabin system (see column 4, lines 42-50 and figures 12a-e), the systems being selectively displayed (one at a time) on he general display area where by they independently show status information and operating functions of the select system (see column 3, lines 52-55 and figures 12a-e) and allow the user to select and control a function of the select system via a touch sensitive input arrangement (see column 2, lines 65 through column 3, line 10 and column 4, lines 42-50). Launey further teaches, in column 55, line 13, through column 56, line 6, and figures 12a-e, that the system contains a main menu, that comprises a submenu, giving the user the ability to switch to a different submenu, the center portion of this screen, along with the available functions (lights on, lights off, volume controls, etc.), further provides

status information, for example, it provides an indication of whether or not there is a tape in the VCR, therefor providing both status and function. Launey, however, doesn't teach the touch sensitive screen controlling systems in an aircraft cabin or the screen being an LCD screen. Speirs teaches a touch sensitive control and monitoring system similar to that of Launey, but further teaches the system being implemented in an aircraft (see column 1, lines 45-55), and the use of a touch sensitive LCD screen for input and monitoring (see column 3, lines 25-31 and page 4, lines 22-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Launey and Speirs before him at the time the invention was made to modify touch screen monitoring and controlling system of Launey to include the ability to control systems in an aircraft and the ability to use a touch sensitive LCD screen. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because, like a home, an aircraft has many separate systems in which a central controller would be handy, and the use of an LCD screen the cabin of an aircraft is an obvious choice because of the limited space.

26. With regard to claim 19, which further teaches the controller further comprising a computer-generated third system display that is selectively displayed on said display screen, and that shows third status information and third operating functions of a third one of said cabin systems and allows the user to select and control said third operating functions by touching said touch sensitive surface input arrangement superimposed on said third system display on said display screen; and said main cabin status display further shows said

overview status information further regarding said third cabin systems and further allows the user to select said desired one of said system displays among said first, second, and third system displays, Launey further teaches, in column 55, line 13, through column 56, line 6, and figures 12a-e, the system comprising six different main menu displayed functional categories, each providing their own status information and functionality, and all the proprieties of the first two, as rejected supra.

27. With regard to claim 20, which further teaches the controller further comprising a computer-generated fourth system display that is selectively displayed on said display screen, and that shows fourth status information and fourth operating functions of a third one of said cabin systems and allows the user to select and control said fourth operating functions by touching said touch sensitive surface input arrangement superimposed on said fourth system display on said display screen; and said main cabin status display further shows said overview status information further regarding said fourth cabin systems and further allows the user to select said desired one of said system displays among said first, second, third, and fourth system displays, Launey further teaches, in column 55, line 13, through column 56, line 6, and figures 12a-e, the system comprising six different main menu displayed functional categories, each providing their own status information and functionality, and all the proprieties of the first two, as rejected supra.

28. With regard to claim 21, which teaches the main cabin status display includes: a first graphical aircraft symbol schematically representing a plan view

of the aircraft cabin, wherein said overview status information regarding said first cabin system is displayed on and/or adjacent to said first graphical aircraft symbol; and a second graphical aircraft symbol schematically representing a plan view of the aircraft cabin, wherein said overview status information regarding said second cabin system is displayed on and/or adjacent to said second graphical aircraft symbol, Launey teaches, in column 18, lines 27-34 and in figures 3H, 3I, and 3K, a display of a plurality of rooms in a home similar to the display of the cabin of the airplane, and displays adjacent to the depiction status information regarding the current status of the area.

29. With regard to claim 22, which teaches a first touch sensitive area that is superimposed on said first graphical aircraft symbol and is linked to said first system display to allow the user to select said first system display as said desired one of said system displays by touching said first touch sensitive area; and a second touch sensitive area that is superimposed on said second graphical aircraft symbol and is linked to said second system display to allow the user to select said second system display as said desired one of said system displays by touching said second touch sensitive area, Launey teaches, in column 18, lines 33-36, that by touching the appropriate area in the floor plan the user can enable or disable particular settings for that area,

30. With regard to claim 23, which teaches the user interface panel further including a plurality of touch buttons that are respectively individually linked to respective ones of said system displays to allow the user to select said desired one of said system dlsplays by touching a respective one of said touch buttons

that is linked to said desired one of said system displays, Launey teaches, in column 16, lines 48-61 and figures 3A-3I, a screen depicting touch sensitive buttons that are linked to respective system displays (audio/video, security, lighting, etc), and provides a display related to the selected button.

31. With regard to claim 24, which teaches plural touch buttons are always available on said user interface panel when any one of said first system display, said second system display, and said main cabin status display is displayed on said display screen, Launey teaches, in column 55, lines 19-59 and in figures 12a-12g, a system in which a plurality of touch buttons are always available to the user when any of the system displays are displayed, Launey further teaches, in column 16, lines 48-61 and in figures, a layout display, which could obviously be displayed with the plural touch buttons being displayed with it.

32. With regard to claim 25, which teaches aid touch buttons comprise respective system identifying symbols that respectively identify respective ones of said system displays ' and that are displayed on said display screen and respective touch sensitive areas of said touch sensitive surface input arrangement respectively superimposed on said system identifying symbols on said display screen, Launey teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e, a system in which touching an appropriate function box implements the function, With regard to claim 2 further teaching function identification symbols displayed on the display screen at locations respectively in registration with said touch input area of said touch sensitive surface input arrangement, Launey

further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e, touch sensitive boxes that have a title associated with them.

33. With regard to claim 26, which teaches said touch buttons respectively comprise permanent physical input keys that are separate and distinct from said touch sensitive surface input arrangement and that are incorporated into said user interface panel, Launey further teaches, in column 1, lines 53-56 and claim 11, the use of a physical keypad in addition to the touch sensitive screen.

34. With regard to claim 27, Launey teaches a system that uses a touch screen for monitoring and controlling systems (see column 2, lines 65 through column 3, line 10 and column 4, lines 42-50), monitoring and controlling an audio, video, lighting, HVAC, and fire safety system (see column 4, lines 42-50 and column 55, lines 12-60 along with figures 12a-e), a door monitoring system (see column 8, line 62), water managing systems (see column 14, lines 33-40 and column 48, lines 40-50), the display area of the screen contains a plurality of labeled touch sensitive input keys (see column 4, lines 42-50 and figures 12a-e), there being a different set of menus for each cabin system (see column 4, lines 42-50 and figures 12a-e), the systems being selectively displayed (one at a time) on the general display area where by they independently show status information and operating functions of the select system (see column 3, lines 52-55 and figures 12a-e) and allow the user to select and control a function of the select system via a touch sensitive input arrangement (see column 2, lines 65 through column 3, line 10 and column 4, lines 42-50). Launey further teaches, in column 55, line 13, through column 56, line 6, and figures 12a-e, that the system

contains a main menu, that comprises a submenu, giving the user the ability to switch to a different submenu, the center portion of this screen, along with the available functions (lights on, lights off, volume controls, etc.), further provides status information, for example, it provides an indication of whether or not there is a tape in the VCR, therefor providing both status and function. Launey further teaches, in column 18, lines 27-34 and in figures 3H, 3I, and 3K, a display of a plurality of rooms in a home similar to the display of the cabin of the airplane, and displays adjacent to the depiction status information regarding the current status of the area. Launey, however, doesn't teach the touch sensitive screen controlling systems in an aircraft cabin or the screen being an LCD screen. Speirs teaches a touch sensitive control and monitoring system similar to that of Launey, but further teaches the system being implemented in an aircraft (see column 1, lines 45-55), and the use of a touch sensitive LCD screen for input and monitoring (see column 3, lines 25-31 and page 4, lines 22-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Launey and Speirs before him at the time the invention was made to modify touch screen monitoring and controlling system of Launey to include the ability to control systems in an aircraft and the ability to use a touch sensitive LCD screen. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because, like a home, an aircraft has many separate systems in which a central controller would be handy, and the use of an LCD screen the cabin of an aircraft is an obvious choice because of the limited space.

35. With regard to claim 28, which teaches said plural touch buttons are always available on said user interface panel when any one of said first system display, said second system display and said main cabin display is displayed on said display screen, Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e that the system contains a main menu that is displayed on the sides of the currently displayed submenu, giving the user the ability to switch to a different submenu.

36. With regard to claim 29, which teaches aid touch buttons comprise respective system identifying symbols that respectively identify respective ones of said system displays and that are displayed on said display screen, and respective touch sensitive areas of said touch sensitive surface input arrangement respectively superimposed on said system identifying symbols on said display screen, Launey teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e, a system in which touching an appropriate function box implements the function, With regard to claim 2 further teaching function identification symbols displayed on the display screen at locations respectively in registration with said touch input area of said touch sensitive surface input arrangement, Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 13-59 and figures 12a-e, touch sensitive boxes that have a title associated with them.

Response to Arguments

37. The arguments filed on 5-5-2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Reasons set forth below.

38. The applicants' argue that the rejection of claim 17, under 35 U.S.C. 112, was unfounded.

39. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that it is unclear what subject matter, if any, is incorporated from claim 5, a now cancelled claim.

40. The applicants' argue that the prior art of record does not teach the main menu having two features, First, the main menu depicts system status information about the subordinate first and second cabin systems, Secondly, the main menu provides links that allow the user to select a desired one of the first and second system menus from the main menu.

41. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that Launey further teaches, in column 55, line 13, through column 56, line 6, and figures 12a-e, that the system contains a main menu that is displayed on the sides of the currently displayed submenu, giving the user the ability to switch to a different submenu, the center portion of this screen further provides status information, for example, it provides an indication of whether or not there is a tape in the VCR.

42. The applicants' argue that the prior art of record does not teach status information representing the system status of at least two of the available sub-menus.

43. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that Launey further teaches, in column 55, lines 45-48, and figures 12a-e, that the system contains provides status information, for example, it provides an indication of whether or not there is a tape in the VCR. There is further status information shown on the

screen of Launey, in column 18, lines 27-64 and in figures 3H, 3I, and 3K, in the system status box.

44. The applicants' argue that Speirs doesn't teach a touch sensitive display panel.

45. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that Speirs further teaches, in column 3, lines 25-31, a touch sensitive control panel used in the control of lighting in aircraft cabins.

Conclusion

46. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

47. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

48. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone

number is (703) 305-4668. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

49. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

50. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

dgb

RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173